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Russ Camp receives journeyman certificate



EnerStar employee Russ Camp completed the necessary course work and on the job training to receive his Journeyman Lineman certificate. Pictured from left to right are EnerStar employees: Construction Foreman Kent Milbourn, Maintenance Crew Leader Archie Eslinger, Camp, Operations Manager Mike Clark, CEO Peter E. Kollinger, and Systems Crew Leader Dana Young.

EnerStar Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce that employee Russ Camp has completed all necessary work and on the job training to become a certified Journeyman Lineman.

While attending high school in Kansas, Illinois, Camp participated in EnerStar Electric's high school internship program. He was one of several individuals to go through the program that continued on the path to work at an electric utility. After high school, he graduated from Northwest Iowa Lineman College where he received a Lineworkers Certificate

Upon graduation, Camp worked for two other Illinois electric cooperatives before ending up at EnerStar. He was employed at Corn Belt

Energy, in Bloomington, Illinois, and Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, in Mattoon, Illinois.

In January 2009, Camp was hired at EnerStar as an apprentice lineman and it is here that he completed the final parts of his four-year training to become a journeyman lineman.

Camp lives with his wife, Paige, and their daughter Pailynne, in the Grandview area.

"Russ was one of those guys that knew from an early age that he wanted to be a lineman and work for a local electric cooperative," said Mike Clark, Operations Manager at EnerStar. "I would like to congratulate him on his success and for reaching his goal." And from the rest of the EnerStar employees and directors, *good job Russ!*

October is Cooperative Month It's a matter of PRINCIPLES!

You might be surprised by the number of co-ops around you. Co-ops have been formed to sell produce, offer financial and banking services, provide housing and health care, and much more, including the one near and dear to our heart - to provide electricity to homes and businesses across the country and right here in east, central Illinois.

You may wonder, where did this idea for co-ops come from? It's a matter of principles (seven, to be exact). The modern movement traces its roots to a store started by weavers in the town of Rochdale (pronounced Rotch-dale) in northern England in 1844. The group was guided by a set of principles drawn up by one of its members, Charles

Howarth. When introduced into the United States in 1874, these "Rochdale Principles" fueled a cooperative explosion.

Although stated in many ways, the Rochdale Principles require that a cooperative must be open for anyone to join. Every member retains one voice, one vote. Electric co-ops hold member business meetings annually, allowing members to elect fellow consumers to guide the co-op and have a say in how their utility is run.

Under these principles, education is big focus. Electric co-ops provide safety information in schools, share ideas on how to make your home more energy efficient to keep electric bills affordable, and make sure

elected officials and opinion leaders know about the co-op business model. Because there is strength in numbers, co-ops tend to stick together when tackling regional and national issues.

Perhaps most important of all, co-ops are independent and community-focused, not tied to the purse strings of far-flung investors. Co-ops help drive local economic development, fund scholarships, support local charities, and work to make life better in the areas they serve—the heart of the cooperative difference.

Learn more about cooperatives and the principles that define them at www.go.coop.

Learn About Co-ops

Electric Cooperatives Build a Better World

Member-owned electric co-ops transformed the landscape of rural America, delivering safe, reliable, and affordable electricity for 75 years. www.nreca.org



America's Electric
Cooperatives

DID YOU KNOW?

- Electric co-op lines cover 75 percent of the u.s. landmass.
- Serve 42 million people in 47 states.
- Electric co-ops have retired \$9.5 billion to members (capital credits) since 1990.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY:

Every June, more than 1,500 high school juniors take part in an educational trip to Washington, D.C. during the Rural Electric Youth Tour.

Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World

A message from America's Electric Cooperatives



Seven Co-op Principles: The Cooperative Difference

EnerStar Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit cooperative business. As a cooperative member, you enjoy privileges that customers of other electric companies do not have. Electric cooperatives are special businesses because the members we serve are the ones that own the cooperative. Below are the seven cooperative principles that guide our business and reflect the best interests of our members.

1) Voluntary & Open Membership

Our cooperative is a voluntary organization, open to all persons able to use our services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2) Democratic Member Control

EnerStar is a democratic organization owned by our members. Members serving as elected representatives of the board of directors are elected by the membership. Members have equal voting rights —one member, one vote.

3) Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute equally to, and democratically control, the capital of our cooperative. Mem-

bers allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, setting up reserves, and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4) Autonomy and Independence

EnerStar is an autonomous, self-help organization controlled by our members. If we enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, we do so on terms that ensure democratic control by our members and maintain our cooperative autonomy.

5) Education, Training and Innovation

Our cooperative provides education and training for our members, elected representatives and employees so they can contribute

effectively to the development of our cooperative. We inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

6) Concern for Community

While focusing on our members' needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by our members.

7) Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Our cooperative serves our members most effectively and strengthens the cooperative movement by working together through local, regional and national structures.

Winter is Coming!

Seal cracks to save energy, money

Finding and sealing air leaks can save you energy and money. Here's a tip from EnerStar Electric Cooperative that can help keep your home warmer in winter, and cooler in summer, while lowering your utility bills.

According to EnerStar's Tim Haddix, caulking cracks and openings can save you about \$212 a year. "Find cracks by waiting for a windy day and then carefully holding a burning incense stick or a smoke

pen next to your windows, doors, electrical outlets, and other spots where outside air may infiltrate," said Haddix. "If the smoke stream moves horizontally, you've found a leak that needs to be sealed."

Haddix recommends using water-proof, flexible, and long-lasting silicone caulk to seal cracks and gaps that are less than one-quarter-inch wide. "Remove any old caulk and clean the surface before applying new caulk," said Haddix.

Fresh caulk takes several hours, or longer, to dry, so it is best to do the job on a dry day when humidity is relatively low and the temperature is above 45 degrees F. In addition to caulk, you can use low-expansion spray foam to seal leaks.

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—visit www.energysavers.gov or Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives energy-saving website, www.TogetherWeSave.com.



**I THOUGHT
I WAS TIGHT
WITH MY
MONEY.
NOW I'M
AIRTIGHT.**

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Simple facts about home sealing

- By taking steps to reduce air infiltration, you can significantly cut your annual energy costs and make your home more comfortable.
- Air infiltration is unwanted air that leaks into your house through openings, cracks, and other areas that aren't sealed as well as they should be.
- In the winter, cold air can leak into your home, causing drafts and making your furnace or heat pump work harder.
- In summer, warm, humid outside air can slip into your air-conditioned home.
- Improperly sealed homes can also cause problems with pests, rodents, and excessive moisture that can lead to mold and mildew.
- Use weatherstripping or caulk to seal air leaks around your doors, windows or attic access.
- Seal the joint of walls and the foundation, along baseboards, where electric or telephone wires, gas lines, or TV cables enter and anywhere two different materials (such as bricks and wood) meet.
- Gaps between sections of ductwork should also be sealed.
- Don't worry about sealing your home too tightly, because it's better to rely on controlled ventilation to maintain fresh air levels.



Flip the switch. Lower the blinds.
Lower the temperature on your thermostat.
These small steps begin to add up!

Contact us to receive your
FREE Energy Cost Cutter Kit!

Hurry! Quantities are limited! While supplies last!

Stop by the office or receive by mail with a small S/H fee of \$4.95

- **Indoor Window Insulating Kit:** Seal cold air out and warm air in; covers five 26"x 60" windows.
- **Indoor/Outdoor Rope Caulk:** Seal up drafts in small gaps; effective alternative to tube caulking; no caulk gun needed; no messy cleanup.
- **CFL Bulb:** energy saving light bulb.
- **Switch & Outlet Sealers:** Easy to install sealers eliminate drafts in exterior wall receptacles.
- **Refrigerator & Freezer Thermometer; Hot Water Gauge:** Check your settings, if wrong, you could be wasting energy.
- Helpful hints and simple steps that add up to big energy savings!



Your fridge needs a retirement plan.

Get \$35 when you recycle your old fridge.
Plus, save up to \$150 a year in energy costs.

It doesn't make financial sense to keep an old fridge or freezer in your garage or basement – not when it uses up to four times the energy of newer models. And throwing it away isn't a good long-term plan for the environment. Why not let us recycle it? We'll haul it away free of charge, you'll get \$35 and you can save up to \$150 a year in energy costs. Talk about a good return on investment.

Call 877-395-5535 or visit
www.enerstar.com for pickup.

GET
\$35

SAVE UP TO
\$150/YR
IN ENERGY COSTS



Refrigerators and freezers must be in working condition, and must be between 10 and 30 cubic feet in size, using inside measurements. Wabash Valley Power Association (WVPA) contracts with JACO Environmental, an appliance recycler, to pick up and recycle refrigerators and freezers that are in working condition. This program is funded by WVPA and is available to residential electric members in EnerStar Electric Cooperative territory on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is expended. Customers must own the unit(s) being recycled. Limit two units per residential address. A check will be mailed to participating EnerStar Electric Cooperative members within 4-6 weeks after the appliance collection. Some restrictions apply. © EnerStar Electric Cooperative

Shopping for Lights? Look for Lumens, Not Watts

We need to change our thinking about lightbulbs. Now, when we are shopping for lightbulbs, consumers should compare **lumens** to be sure they are getting the desired amount of light, or level of brightness. Soon light bulbs will have a new “Lighting Facts Label” to make it easy to compare bulb brightness, color, life, and estimated annual operating cost.

Buy Lumens, Not Watts

We typically buy things based on how much of it we get, right? When buying milk, we buy it by volume (gallons).

So why should lighting be any different? But for decades, we have been buying lightbulbs based on how much energy they consume (watts), not how much light they give us (lumens). With the arrival

of new, more efficient lightbulbs, it's time for that to change.

So what is a Lumen anyway?

Lumens measure how much light you are getting from a bulb. More lumens means a brighter light; fewer lumens a dimmer light.

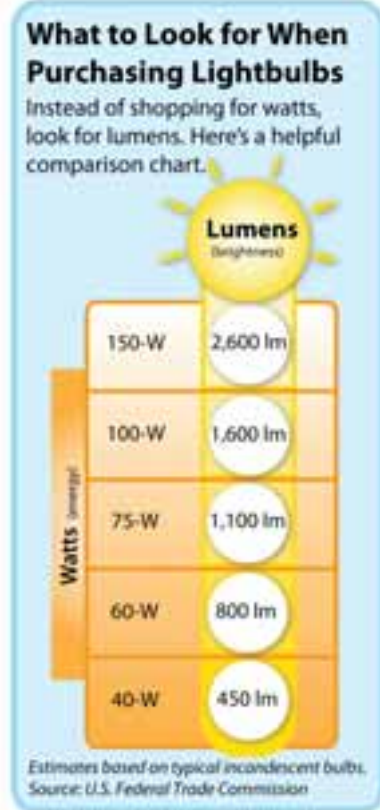
Lumens are to light what pounds are to bananas or gallons are to milk—they let you buy the amount of light you want. So when buying new bulbs, *think lumens, not watts*.

The brightness, or lumen levels, of lights in your home may vary widely, so here's a **rule of thumb**:

- To replace a 100-W traditional incandescent bulb, look for a bulb that gives you *about* 1,600 lumens. If you want something dimmer, go for less lumens; if you prefer brighter light, look for more lumens.
- Replace a 75-W bulb with an energy-saving bulb that gives you about 1,100 lumens
- Replace a 60-W bulb with an energy-saving bulb that gives you about 800 lumens
- Replace a 40-W bulb with an energy-saving bulb that gives you about 450 lumens.

What Should I Look For? The Lighting Facts Label

To help consumers better understand the switch from watts to lumens, the Federal Trade Commission will require a new product label for lightbulbs starting in January 2012. The labels will help consumers buy bulbs that are right for them.



Like the helpful nutrition label on food products, the Lighting Facts Label will help consumers understand what they are really purchasing. The label clearly provides the lumens—or brightness—of the bulb, estimated operating cost for the year, and the color of the light (from warm/yellowish, to white to cool/blue).

To learn more about lighting options and other ways to save energy at home, we encourage you to visit www.energysavers.com or www.TogetherWeSave.com, a website administered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Source: Energy Savers, U.S. Department of Energy

Lighting Facts Per Bulb	
Brightness	820 lumens
Estimated Yearly Energy Cost	\$7.23
<small>Based on 3 hrs/day, 11¢/kWh Cost depends on rates and use</small>	
Life	1.4 years
<small>Based on 3 hrs/day</small>	
Light Appearance	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Warm Cool </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>2700 K</p> </div>	
Energy Used	60 watts

The Federal Trade Commission created a new, mandatory lightbulb packaging label in 2010 to help consumers understand light output and how much energy each bulb uses. The labels will also make it easier to compare bulbs. By January 1, 2012, all new lightbulbs will carry this label. Source: FTC



Mission statement

EnerStar Electric Cooperative exists to reliably distribute affordable electricity to its member-owners while upholding our values of integrity, accountability, and commitment to our community.

Don't Let Your Electronics Make Your Energy Costs Soar



Stop vampire electronics dead in their tracks!

Even at night, items such as **microwaves, coffee makers, phones, computers, MP3 players, and power tool chargers** are alive, silently draining your home of energy and money. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, these “vampire electronics” can add 8 percent to your annual electric bill. Stop wasting money. Cut these “vampires” off at the source. **Unplug fully charged battery-operated devices and plug appliances into power strips that can be switched off when not in use.**



To find more ways to take charge
of your energy costs, visit
www.enerstar.com

EnerStar Now Offering Text Message Alerts

Sign up to receive information on power outages, breaking cooperative news

In an effort to better communicate news and information to our membership, EnerStar Electric Cooperative is now offering text message alerts regarding major power outages.

"We are very pleased to offer this service and several members have signed up for it," said Angela Griffin, EnerStar's Manager of Member Services. "We feel it will help us get the word out not only quickly, but directly to those who need it."

Griffin stated any text messages coming from the cooperative will be in the scope of breaking news. The cooperative realizes some members signing up for the text alert service may have to pay text messaging fees to their cell phone provider. There is no fee from the cooperative for this service.

To sign up for EnerStar's text messaging service, members are encouraged to visit www.enerstar.com/alerts.



EnerStar is now offering free text alerts regarding power outages.

Visit www.enerstar.com/alerts to sign up!



Drive Up – Don't Get Out!



In a hurry? EnerStar's convenient drop box is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Located on the east side of the EnerStar parking lot.